

In the claims:

1. (Original) A method of stimulating proliferation of a regulatory T cell, comprising contacting the cell with EBI3-p35.
2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein the EBI3-p35 comprises at least two EBI3 components and two p35 components.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 2 wherein the EBI-p35 is a heterotetramer consisting of two of each component.
4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 ~~or claim 3~~ wherein at least one EBI3 component and at least one p35 component are covalently linked to one another.
5. (Original) A method according to claim 4 wherein the at least one EBI3 component and the at least one p35 component form a fusion protein.
6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4 ~~or claim 5~~ wherein each EBI3 or p35 component is covalently linked to at least one other such component.
7. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ wherein the EBI3-p35 further comprises one or more heterologous polypeptides covalently linked to one or more of the EBI3 or p35 components.
8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 7 wherein two or more said heterologous polypeptides associate with one another

to assist in the association between the EBI3 and p35 components.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8 wherein the heterologous polypeptides associate with one another via disulphide bonds.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein the heterologous polypeptides are antibody Fc regions including hinge regions.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 10~~ further comprising contacting the regulatory T cell with a substance capable of stimulating signalling through the cell's T cell receptor.

12. (Currently amended) A method of enhancing regulatory T cell activity in a subject, comprising administering a medicament containing EBI3-p35 to that subject.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, ~~Use according to claim 14~~ wherein the medicament is for the treatment of a condition characterised by inappropriate or undesirable T cell activation.

16. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 15, ~~Use according to claim 15~~ wherein the condition is an inflammatory or autoimmune disease.

17. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 16, ~~Use according to claim 16~~ wherein the condition is arthritis (e.g. rheumatoid arthritis), gastritis, pernicious anaemia, thyroiditis, insulinitis, diabetes, sialoadenitis, adrenalitis, orchitis/oophoritis, glomerulonephritis, experimental autoimmune encephalitis, multiple sclerosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, atherosclerosis or inflammatory bowel disease.

18. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~Use according to~~ claim 15 wherein the medicament is for the prevention or amelioration of allograft rejection.

19. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~Use according to~~ claim 15 wherein the condition is an allergy.

20. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in ~~Use according to~~ claim 19 wherein the condition is asthma.

21. (Original) An EBI3-p35 molecule comprising an EBI3 component, a p35 component, and a heterologous component, wherein two or more such heterologous components are capable of associating with one another such that two or more such EBI-p35 molecules form a complex.

22. (Original) A molecule according to claim 21 wherein the EBI3, p35 and heterologous components form a fusion protein.

23. (Currently amended) A molecule according to claim 21 ~~or claim 22~~ wherein the heterologous components are capable of associating with one another by formation of disulphide bonds.

24. (Currently amended) A molecule according to ~~any one of~~ claims

21 ~~to 23~~ wherein the heterologous component is an antibody Fc domain including the hinge region.

25. (Currently amended) EBI3-p35 as claimed in claim 21 comprising two EBI3 components and two p35 components.

26. (Original) EBI3-p35 according to claim 25 wherein each of the EBI3 and p35 components is covalently linked to at least one other such component.

27. (Currently amended) EBI3-p35 according to claim 25 ~~or claim 26~~ further comprising one or more heterologous components.

28. (Original) EBI3-p35 according to claim 27 wherein at least one of each of the EBI3, p35 and heterologous components form a fusion protein.

29. (Currently amended) A nucleic acid encoding a fusion protein according to claim 22 ~~or claim 28~~.

30. (Currently amended) An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 29.

31. (Original) A host cell comprising an expression vector according to claim 30.